

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W  
-----030022 221043Z /11

O R 220850Z JUL 78  
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7536  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PORG, WA, SF  
SUBJECT: TLHABANELLO'S STATEMENT

SUMMARY: ON HIS RETURN TO WINDHOEK ON JULY 20, MOKGANEDI  
TLHABANELLO, INTERNAL SWAPO'S PUBLICITY SECRETARY, GAVE A  
PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE SAID SWAPO HAD ACCEPTED THE  
WESTERN PROPOSAL. TLHABANELLO ALSO SAID THE WEST HAD  
ACCEPTED "THE FACT THAT WALVIS BAY IS PART AND PARCEL OF  
NAMIBIA" AND HE PROJECTED THE ELECTION AS COMING IN MARCH  
NEXT YEAR. HE GAVE A MODEST ESTIMATE OF 60 PERCENT POPULAR  
SUPPORT FOR SWAPO AND INDICATED NUJOMA WOULD PROBABLY NOT  
RETURN UNTIL THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN BEGAN. FOLLOWING IS A  
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TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE AS PROVIDED BY A NEWSMAN  
WHO TAPED THE SESSION.

QUOTE

1. WE CONSTANTLY MADE IT CLEAR TO THE CONTACT GROUP THAT  
WE ARE COMMITTED TO GENUINE INDEPENDENCE OF OUR PEOPLE AND

THAT THE INTERESTS OF THESE OPPRESSED PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE EQUATED WITH SOUTH AFRICAN INTERESTS IN NAMIBIA. NOW, HAVING SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING THE LAST STUMBLING BLOCKS BY GETTING THE WEST TO AGREE TO OUR POSITION REGARDING THE UN TROOPS, WHICH WILL SURROUND, CONTROL AND SUPERVISE THE 1,500 RACIST TROOPS. SOUTH AFRICA HAS UNCONDITIONALLY ACCEPTED THE DEMARKATION OF THEIR TROOPS AS SUGGESTED IN THE WESTERN PROPOSALS. ALSO HAVING OBTAINED THE NECESSARY CONCESSION FROM THE WEST WITH REGARD TO WALVIS BAY AND FORTIFIED IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE FINAL VICTORY IS CERTAIN SWAPO NOW DECLARED ITSELF TO MOVE ON TO NEW YORK FOR THE FORTHCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NAMIBIA. WE EXPECT THIS MEETING TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH. NOW WE ALL KNOW THAT IT HAS BEEN SA AND HER WESTERN ALLIES WHICH FOR DECADES HAVE PREVENTED THE UN FROM DISCHARGING HER RESPONSIBILITIES OVER NAMIBIA. HOWEVER, FACED WITH OUR PEOPLE'S DETERMINATION AND SUPREME SACRIFICES ON POLITICAL, MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC LEVELS, PRETORIA AND HER WESTERN ALLIES HAVE NOW BEEN FORCED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS IN AGREEING TO THE UN TO DISCHARGE ITS HISTORIC RESPONSIBILITY OVER NAMIBIA.

2. WE ARE HAPPY THAT WE HAVE COME TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT, WHICH LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PROCESS OF DECOLONISATION TO TAKE PLACE IN NAMIBIA. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTED. WE ARE, HOWEVER, AFRAID THAT IT MIGHT BE SABOTAGED BY CERTAIN ELEMENTS AND CERTAIN PEOPLE. IT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NECESSARY TO MENTION HERE THAT TO US IT SEEMS AS IF SA HAS ACCEPTED THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE PROPOSALS. AND IT SEEMS, THEREFORE, AS IF SA IS PREPARED TO REJECT ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE OUTSIDE THE INTERPRETATION. IF SA DOESN'T SABOTAGE THE AGREEMENT BY STICKING TO ITS INTERPRETATION WE ARE QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WILL BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE, NOT EARLIER THAN MAY NEXT YEAR. IF ONE TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE TIMETABLE IN THE PROPOSALS YOU WILL FIND THAT THERE IS A LOT OF TIME GIVEN, FIRST OF ALL, TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SA ARMY, THE RETURN OF EXILES...THE WITHDRAWAL OF SA IS GIVEN THREE MONTHS... THAT INCLUDES THE RETURN OF EXILES.. AND ALL THAT. AFTER THAT PERIOD, AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS GIVEN THREE TO FOUR MONTHS. THIS ALREADY BRINGS US TO FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR. AND THEN FOLLOWS THE ELECTION, WHICH WE EXPECT TO TAKE PLACE - IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL - IN MARCH NEXT YEAR. NOW THERE HAVE BEEN SPECULATIONS THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MIGHT SIT FOR ONE MONTH. BUT I HAVE A TENDENCY TO GIVE IT ONE AND A HALF MONTHS. I JUST READ THIS MORNING THAT MARTHINUS WIEGERS GIVES IT TWO MONTHS. IF THAT IS THE CASE, THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL BE FINISHED ITS JOB ROUND ABOUT APRIL OR MAY, AFTER WHICH WE EXPECT INDEPENDENCE TO BE DECLARED. THAT IS EVERYTHING GOES WELL.

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3. QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE MAIN DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION  
OF THE PROPOSAL?

A. IT SEEMS AS IF SA BELIEVES THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SA  
TROOPS MEANS THAT THEY WILL BE SUBSTITUTED BY THE POLICE ONLY.  
THEY ALSO SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL WILL  
HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL OVER THE INTERIM TRANSITIONAL  
PERIOD. WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WILL COME TO JOIN  
AGREEMENTS AND NOTHING WILL TAKE EFFECT IF IT IS NOT APPROVED  
BY THE UN REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS GOT A VETO POWER. THE A-G  
IS THEREFORE NOT IN CONTROL OR ABSOLUTE CONTROL IN THE  
SITUATION. I SPEAK UNDER CORRECTION WITH REGARD TO SA'S  
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INTERPRETATION OF BRINGING IN THE POLICE TO REPLACE THE ARMY.

4. QUESTION: ANY DIFFERENCE OF INTERPRETATION AS FAR AS THE ELECTION DATE IS CONCERNED?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I SHOULD SAY THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF INTERPRETATION. SWAPO HAS ACCEPTED THE PROPOSALS AS THEY ARE WITHOUT ATTACHING ANY ADDITIONAL INTERPRETATIONS OTHER THAN THOSE GIVEN BY THE WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES THEMSELVES, WHEREAS IT SEEMS AS IF SA HAS GIVEN ITS OWN INTERPRETATION AND HAS ACCEPTED THE PROPOSALS WITH THEIR INTERPRETATION.

5. QUESTION: ANY PRIVATE ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE WEST TO SWAPO IN LUANDA?

A. WE DID NOT EXPECT ANY PRIVATE ASSURANCES FROM THE WEST BECAUSE WE DON'T EVEN TRUST THEM.

6. QUESTION: DO YOU EXPECT WALVIS BAY TO BECOME A STUMBLING BLOCK?

A. AS FAR AS SWAPO IS CONCERNED - NO. THE POSITION OF SWAPO WITH REGARD TO WALVIS BAY IS THAT WB HAS ALWAYS BEEN PART AND PARCEL OF NAMIBIA AND IT SHOULD BE REGARDED AS SUCH. OUR POSITION HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND STILL IS THAT THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA WB IS ALSO INDEPENDENT, BUT OCCUPIED BY SA SHOULD MEAN THAT, IN TERMS OF THAT, THE WB ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSALS. I AM NOT PREPARED TO SPECULATE ON A SEPARATE PROPOSAL BEING FORWARDED IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. WE HAVE NOT ACCEPTED THAT WB WILL BE NEGOTIATED. IN FACT, THE WEST HAS ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT WB IS PART AND PARCEL OF NAMIBIA AND SHOULD BE RE-INTEGRATED INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NAMIBIA BEFORE OR AFTER INDEPENDENCE. WITH THAT WE ARE HAPPY.

7. QUESTION: HOW WILL SWAPO SUPPORTERS REACT TO THE ACCEPTANCE?

A. QUITE FAVOURABLY. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HOPING THAT WE WILL REACH A POINT WHERE WE WILL REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. AND WE HOPE THAT THIS IS THE WAY TO IT. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE ASSURANCE THAT A MINIMUM OF 5,000 UN TROOPS WILL BE MONITORING THE 1,500 TROOPS WE FELT THAT THERE WAS NO REASON FOR US INSISTING ON HAVING THEM SHIFTED. THAT WAS A CONCESSION TO US. WE EXPECT OTHER DELEGATES TO RETURN WITHIN TWO DAYS. THINGS ARE SUCH THAT THE PROPOSALS MAKE PROVISION

FOR THE FREE RETURN OF EXILES. I HAVE NO IDEA WHEN MR. NUJOMA WILL RETURN, MOST PROBABLY DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

8. WE WILL MAINTAIN THAT SWAPO HAS AT LEAST 60 PERCENT SUPPORT IN THE TERRITORY, AND THIS WILL DEFINITELY INCREASE ONCE THE INTIMIDATORY MEASURES FALL AWAY WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE UN REP. HE SAID HE WOULD FIRST LIKE TO STUDY THE REGISTRATION REGULATIONS BEFORE COMMENTING ON THE MATTER. A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED AFTER THE PLAN HAS GONE THROUGH THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. WE HAVE ACCEPTED THIS AND WE ARE PREPARED TO SIGN IT. SHIPANGA HAS ALWAYS BEEN A CONFUSIONIST AND I BELIEVE THAT HE IS ONLY COMING TO ADD MORE CONFUSION THAT ALREADY EXISTS. IN ANY CASE, HE WILL BE VERY WELCOME HERE TO DIE THE NATURAL DEATH THAT HIS FORMER COLLEAGUES, LIKE KERINE, APPOLLUS. UNQUOTE  
ALGREN

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## Message Attributes

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